Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)

Sources: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), World Drink Trends 2003

Data collected by the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in 2003 estimates that the extent of alcohol use in the Islamic Republic of Iran is considerable and that data from the last five years suggest an increasing trend in the use of alcohol.¹

Lifetime abstainers in Shiraz

In a study evaluating substance use among a sample of 205 psychiatric inpatients (70 women and 135 men) chosen randomly in Shiraz in the centre of the Fars province, 23.7% of men and 4.3% of women reported having used alcohol once or more in their lives.³

In a study evaluating substance use among a sample of 64 Iranian patients (32 men and 32 women) with nephrologic disease (chronic renal failure), 3.1% of the total sample reported using alcohol once or more in their lives.⁴

In a study evaluating substance use among a sample of 96 patients with cardiovascular disease admitted into the cardiac ward of general hospitals in 2001, the rate of lifetime abstainers was found to be 91.7%.⁵
Youth drinking (current users among high school students)

In a study evaluating prevalence of substance use in a sample of 400 Iranian nursing students (85.25% were female and 14.25% were male; mean age of females was 20.3 and of males was 22.8), 5.8% of the total sample reported usage of alcohol one or more times during their lives. In addition, 3.5% reported using alcohol occasionally, at least once a month.7

Alcohol dependence in Shiraz

The same survey also found that 11.4% of the total sample were occasional alcohol abusers (17.3% of men and 5.4% of women). Alcohol abuse was defined by DSM-IV criteria.2

Country background information

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult (15+)</td>
<td>46 865 600</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>% under 15</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population distribution 2001 (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Gross National Income per capita 2002</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>1710</td>
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<td>Rural</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>In the Islamic Republic of Iran, approximately 99% of the population are Muslim.</td>
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References